Sl. No.	State	Tiger		Leopard	
11.	Meghalaya			2000-2001	1
12.	Orissa	1998-1999–	1	2000-2001	1
13.	Rajasthan			2000-2001	1
14.	Tamilnadu			1998-1999	1
15.	Uttar Pradesh	2001-2002–	1	1999-2000	2
				2000-2001	3
				2001-2002	1
16.	West Bengal	1998-1999–	2	1999-2000	1
		2001-2002–	3	2000-2001	5
				2001-2002	1

The information from the states of Chattisgarh, J&K, Goa, Punjab, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh & Delhi are not available.

Blast furnace of IISCO

*139. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 897, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th July, 2001 and state:

(a) the specific technical measures taken so far, for the hearth strengthening of blast furnace No.3 at IISCO;

(b) the status of relining of blast furnace No.4;

(c) whether Government are going to assure necessary measures in blast furnace Nos. 3 and 4, so that operations at IISCO are not affected till the implementation of the proposed revival schemes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a), (c) and (d) All efforts are being made to run the Blast furnaces Nos. 3 and 4 by adopting technical measures for hearth strengthening so that operations at Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) are not affected.

The specific technical measures taken by IISCO so far for the hearth strengthening of blast furnace No. 3 at Burnpur include restriction in production, keeping 6 nos. of tuyers out of 18 blanked,

use of Titanium ore and Illiminite sand on a regular basis, measurement of heat fluxes regularly and flushing of waterline wherever and whenever there is rise in heat flux.

(b) The approval for relining of blast furnace No.4 has not yet been accorded by the Board of Directors of IISCO.

Quality of teaching

*140. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that thousands of arts, science and engineering colleges are becoming workshops that maintain no quality or standard of teaching;

(b) whether it is a fact that graduates coming out of these colleges are unemployable, without any skills; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to improve the quality of education so that the engineering and other technical students, when they come out of the colleges, are really equipped with skills and are at once employable?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) "Complaints have been received by the Government about some institutions not maintaining the desired level of standards. Government is concerned about the quality of education. The University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)—statutory bodies responsible for improvement of quality in Arts/Science and Engineering disciplines respectively, are taking various steps for ensuring quality in education. The AICTE accords approval to technical institutions after ensuring availability of adequate infrastructural facilities in terms of faculty, building, library, equipments, etc. Same is the case with the Universities in respect of Arts and Science.

As per the recent analysis of the Labour Market by the National Technology and Management Information System (NTMIS), the engineering degree holders are absorbed within two to three years of